

I write to provide Comments to the FCC on the E-Rate NPRM, proceeding 13-184. The E-Rate has been of great importance to my (district/school) because it has helped our students and teachers gain access to a wealth of online resources, to communicate and collaborate, and to develop the 21st century skills necessary for college and career. However, E-Rate funding levels have not kept pace with my (school/district's) (current/future) bandwidth needs. I urge you to consider raising the E-rate funding level to at least \$5 billion per year, which is close to the average demand level for each of the past two years.

As an ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR FOR EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY AT ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY, I know that seamlessly infusing digital learning throughout the school curriculum is a prerequisite for students to graduate from high school with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in today's global economy. Access to high speed broadband is the key for modern teaching and learning to occur in all schools across the country.

At Arizona State University, as well as our partnering DISTRICTS, we use digital learning in almost all our coursework. As well, we help the teachers we work with to learn how to use digital tools in their future classrooms. An example of digital learning, I teach online, and I when I teach face-to-face, I expect my students to have their own laptops, as almost everything we do is enhanced with technology.

Many districts we work with, especially those on the NATIVE AMERICAN RESERVATIONS SERVED BY ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY, network connectivity is sub-par, and puts these students at a disadvantage. Especially in these locations there is the need for a high speed reliable network to increase in the near future.

The E-rate program has been a phenomenal success in bringing Internet access to almost every classroom in America. In the last funding cycle applications from schools and libraries totaled more than \$5 billion, more than double the available funding. I respectfully urge the FCC to increase funding for the E-Rate program to at least \$5 billion to meet this demand. All students need access to high speed broadband. Our nation's future depends on their success.